



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**



DATE: JULY 26, 2011
FROM: CHIEF ROBERT W. SHILLING *RWS*
TO: ALL DPS COMMISSIONED PERSONNEL
SUBJECT: DIRECTIVE 2011 – 07
NON-INJURY CRASH SCENE DIAGRAMS

The purpose of this directive is to provide guidance and direction to ensure that commissioned employees of the Department of Public Safety use their best judgment when arriving on-scene to NON-INJURY motor vehicle crashes to ensure that their safety and the continued flow of traffic from the motoring public is a priority. On-scene commissioned officers need to articulate the justification to close lanes of travel or roadways as a whole to investigate non-injury motor vehicle crashes; where in doing so, may contribute to additional crashes occurring due to roadway blockages, closures, and traffic back up.

Therefore, this directive will supersede OPR 45:00 section 5.0 Procedural Steps, Sub-Section 5(A6) Diagram and Measurements to read:

- The officer will prepare and complete a crash scene diagram when an arrest is made for a violation of law that is deemed to be a contributing factor to the cause of the crash or in the event of an injury or fatality. All other crash investigation diagrams will be completed at the discretion of the investigating officer.

With this said, it will be incumbent upon each officer who does not complete a crash scene diagram to articulate his / her reason in the report narrative and to ensure that the report narrative fully articulates and documents the incident.

RWS:dhs